

Applicant: Xiao Chen
Serial No.: 09/667,077
Group Art Unit: 2121

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REMARKS

No new matter is added by this amendment. The present application was filed on September 9, 2000 with original claims 1-9. In a prior amendment, new claim 10 was added. By this amendment, claim 10 has been amended. The claims remaining in consideration are claims 1-10. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The Examiner indicated that claims 1-9 were allowed. This is noted with appreciation.

New claim 10 was rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent 6,023,637 issued February 8, 2000 to Zhong Qi Liu et al ("Liu") in view of US Patent 6,270,599 issued August 7, 2001 to John Wood ("Wood"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 10 has been amended to more clearly identify the subject matter applicants regard as the invention. Applicants respectfully assert that neither Lui nor Wood teach nor suggest the present invention as set forth in amended independent claim 10. Amended independent claim 10 was discussed with the Examiner in a telephone interview with the undersigned on May 20, 2004. The Examiner indicated the amended independent claim 10 was allowable. This is noted with appreciation.

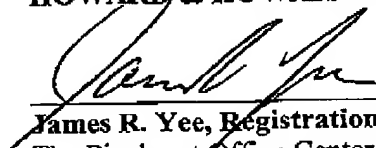
All of the Examiner's objections and rejections having been successfully traversed, applicants respectfully assert that the present application is now in condition for allowance. An early notice of allowance is solicited.

Applicant believes that no fees are due, however, if any become required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account 08-2789. Further and favorable reconsideration of the outstanding Office Action is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted

HOWARD & HOWARD ATTORNEYS, P.C.

May 21, 2004
Date


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that the attached Amendment for United States Patent Application Serial Number 09/667,077 filed September 21, 2000 is being transmitted by facsimile to the United States Patent & Trademark Office to fax numbers (703) 872-9306 and (703) 746-7311 on March 19, 2004.

Melissa Dadisman
Melissa S. Dadisman